P/4475-5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Alexander ZERNICKEL, et al.   Date: July 18 , 2005

International Application No.: PCT/EP2003/014585

International Filing Date: 19 December 2003

For: RACK-AND-PINION STEERING MECHANISM

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, kindly amend the application as follows:

FEE CALCULATION

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

_____ If checked, "Small Entity" status is claimed.

	NO. CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA PRESENT		RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	22	MINUS	20	* = 2	X	($25 SE or $50)	$100.00
INDEP.	3	MINUS	3	** = 0	X	($100 SE or $200)	$
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					X	($180 SE or $360)	$

* not less than 20 ** not less than 3	TOTAL $100.00

If any additional payment is required, a check which includes the calculated fee of

$100.00 (OFGS Check No. 21276) is attached.

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In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

1. __√__ If checked, an abstract is submitted herewith.

2. ___ If checked, amendment(s) to the drawings are submitted herewith.

3. __√__ If checked, amendment(s) to the specification are submitted herewith.

4. __√__ If checked, amendment(s) to the claims are submitted herewith.